
FISCAL UPDATE Article

Fiscal Services Division

September 17, 2019



Ground Floor, State Capitol Building

Des Moines, Iowa 50319

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STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION — SEPTEMBER 2019

Meeting. The State Board of Education met on September 12, 2019, in Des Moines. The meeting opened with Department of Education Director Ryan Wise reporting on the recent adoption of rules regarding construction standards for school buses, including the requirement of lap-shoulder belts. Director Wise also provided an update on student mental health training being provided to educators.

Seclusion and Restraint Rules. Proposed amendments to rules regarding seclusion and restraint failed to be adopted at the August 2019 Board meeting. Individual meetings have been held with petitioners and those who provided input at the last Board meeting. Six regional meetings have been scheduled to receive feedback on the proposed amendments and allow for additional public comment. Updated proposed revisions to the seclusion and restraint rules will be presented at the November Board meeting.

Iowa Statewide Assessment. Representatives from Iowa Testing Programs (ITP) at the University of Iowa presented proficiency scoring recommendations for the new statewide assessment, which was administered to students for the first time in spring 2019. The recommendations were developed through a process involving 185 Iowa educators determining not-yet-proficient, proficient, and advanced scoring levels. Differences from the previous assessment include an online format and the inclusion of writing in the English language arts portion. Board members raised concerns about getting input from teachers and administrators and giving additional time for school districts to review the results. After discussion of the implications of delaying approval of the recommendations, the Board adopted the proficiency recommendations as presented. Results by school district, school building, and individual student will be available in October. A summary of the 2018-2019 statewide student proficiency rates can be found [here](#).

Career and Technical Education Standards. Career and technical education (CTE) standards were established as part of [HF 2392](#) in 2016. Management teams have been developing statewide standards for the six CTE service areas of agriculture, food, and natural resources; applied sciences, technology, engineering, and manufacturing; business, finance, marketing, and management; health sciences; human services; and information solutions. The goal of the standards is to promote equity in CTE across school districts and across the State. The Board approved the standards for all CTE areas except for the applied sciences, technology, engineering, and manufacturing area, which is still being worked on.

Iowa Instructional Framework. As part of the Teacher Leadership Compensation (TLC) system, the Department has provided an instructional observation rubric that serves as a framework for supporting teacher standards. The rubric provides a common instructional language, teacher reflection, support for teachers, and guidance for professional learning and collaboration. Implementation of the framework is voluntary, and currently 80 school districts are participating.

Next Meeting. The next meeting of the State Board of Education is scheduled for Wednesday, November 20, 2019.

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